

# RAMSEY & WARBOYS REPORTER

ISSUE 3 • SEPTEMBER 2015

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## Ted trains for Jump

Watch the skies this month, as the annual Pidley International Teddy Bear Freefall Competition returns.

As you can see, the teddies are hard at work training for this month's event, which is being held on the 6th of September from 10AM.

Expected to be one of the largest gatherings of teddy bears in the country, it's not just for the daredevil bears, as others can be brought to be judged in the 'best dressed' competition, while of course Pidley Ted will be on hand with his team of stretcher bearers!

To find out more, turn to page 3.



## Ramsey celebrates 40's Victory

**T**his month, the thirteenth consecutive 1940's weekend was held at The Camp on the outskirts of Ramsey.

Up to 6,000 people attended the weekend, with displays from vintage aircraft, vintage cars and indeed vintage performers, not to mention almost 400 re-enactors who showcased a wide range of contemporary military skills when they recreated a conflict and battled for spectators.

Held on the side of a former Search Light Battery, the gathering has become a key annual event for Ramsey, and often attracts significant numbers of both residents and tourists.

Organisers have praised the success of the event, saying several of the new additions went down well with the crowds, while Ramsey itself took the event in its stride, with many local businesses turning out to support the event.

For more information, turn to page 20

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The Ramsey & Warboys Reporter is an independent newspaper with no ties or associations with any larger publishers or organisations.

Each month, we bring you the best selection of news, views and what's on in the Ramsey area - written and produced locally and delivered FREE to your door.

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If you have a story or if you know of an event which may be of local interest please let us know; we can publish it in your newspaper,  
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## To: all Bury villagers

### Consultation on Playing Field and Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council have commissioned proposals to provide additional leisure facilities.

Now we would like to consult with you so that we can deliver what the community would use.

Where:

Bury Village Hall – committee room

When: 12th September 2:00pm till 4:00pm

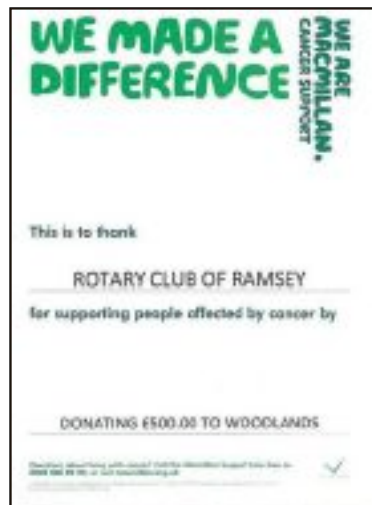
What: Initial plans for facilities on the playing field – such as:

### MULTI USE GAMES AREA TRIM TRIAL DYNAMIC STRUCTURES CHAT ROOM

Please come along and view the plans.

Also share with us your thoughts on the Bury Neighbourhood plan – a vision of the future for Bury. Then tell us what you think or what we have missed.

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Obviously, it's been a busy month for everyone involved at the Reporter, with several key local events taking place. While we could make it to the 1940's weekend and were in attendance at the Steam Fair (see pages 20 and 24), The Warboys Fete crept past at the start of the month, sneaking between our print runs. However, I am reliably informed that it was better than ever, and rounded off an excellent Feast Week. If anyone has any pictures or letters they would wish to send in regarding the event, please get in touch.

We also welcome back a few old faces and some news ones. Kira, our youth editor, will be heading off to University soon, but has agreed to continue providing us with the young adult's viewpoint on the local area. As a team, we wish her the best of luck in this new chapter of her life, and look forward to receiving her updates throughout her time at university.

We also welcome Catherine Verreccia to the organisation. A literary reviewer and blogger, Catherine will be providing a series of book reviews over the next few months, concentrating on the new and the old. To see her first piece, go to page 6.

Finally, we should look to next month, where we hope to be bringing you a larger edition with new regular features. Chief amongst these will be Turning Back The Clock, a look at Ramsey and the surrounding villages as they once were. If you have a story from back in the day or a few pictures from days gone by, please let us know. We will also be taking a look at the new Community Roadwatch, an entirely separate and unique organisation that builds on the work of Speedwatch, and



## BY THE EDITOR



we shall be taking a look at the history and impact of many of the areas churches.

All that remains is for me to thank the Ramsey and Warboys Reporter CIC for bringing me into this fantastic publication from the beginning, and to hope that we can grow and build upon our success in the future.

*Adam Roberts*

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Freefall Competition



Can you believe it's almost that time of year again? Time for ten brave teddy bears to jump out of a small plane aiming to be closest to the Honey Pot landing zone.

With just under two weeks to go, the bears are in their final stages of training ready for the 2015 Pidley International Teddy Bear Freefall Competition!

Rivalry is strong between the Tiddies so Pidley Ted decided he should provide them with separate training sessions to ensure they could not cause injury to one another, and to give each one the best chance - especially with the recent news in the media relating to

top athletes and what they would do to win a competition! And we don't want any such naughtiness occurring during our event.

So the event itself starts at 10am sharp at Rookery Farm, Fen Road, Pidley and there will be the usual distractions\* for visitors until such time as the weather is right for the plane to take off, and of course the Teddy Bears are ready.

The distractions include a Bouncy Castle! Ice Cream Van J, BBQ, Gingerbread Teddy Bear decorating, Splat the Rat, Lucky Dip, Guess the number of Sweets in the Jar, Guess the Weight of the Cake plus many more distractions and of course for the adults there's the raffle for the Barrow o' Booze!

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday!!!



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## PERRY'S PRIVATE HIRE CELEBRATES 5<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Ramsey based private hire firm Perry's are about to celebrate their fifth successful year in business and with new vehicles as well as seeking additional drivers, they are all set for another great year.

Mum and daughter team Marie and Lauren put their success down to their willingness to go that extra mile with their customers. From shopping deliveries to collecting prescriptions and even taking one of their customers to hospital whilst waiting with them to be seen.

### Thursford Christmas Spectacular

From its humble beginnings this local firm has certainly gone from strength to strength in the past five years. In addition to the private hire aspect of the business they also offer chauffeur facilities as well as a 48 seater coach for holidays, theatre outings, nights out and weekend breaks. In fact they are in the midst of organising a trip to Thursford Christmas Spectacular – 'The Largest Christmas Show In England' – for this November.

"We are pleased to have established ourselves as part of our local community and greatly appreciate the loyalty of our valued customers" said Marie "We want to take this opportunity to say thank you to our customers and we are very proud to serve you well" she added.



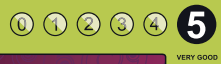
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## Heigh Ho, it's off to work we go

Family History is the fastest growing hobby in England thanks to television programmes like 'Who do you think you are' which has now been running for seven seasons. The Ramsey and District U3A have a Family History group which meets twice a month so the question is what do we do? Is it all heavy research using long words and serious faces? Do we use our quill pens to write out family names in beautiful script on parchment? The answer is certainly not, we have far too much fun to be thought of as serious. Let me explain.

All families are made up of mothers, fathers and children back through the generations. They can remain as names on pages or they can come alive. With a little time and effort you would be surprised what you can discover.

Take work for instance. The Family History group was asked to choose one member of any branch of their family to research their occupation over the years using family records and stories, the census records, and anything else we could lay hands on.

### Stable boy to millionaire

Nick's ancestor was Isaac Hector Pratt who was born in 1834. He was a stable boy at 14 but by the time he was 25 he owned a coffee shop in Chelsea London and by the time he was 35 he was the owner of an hotel in Mayfair. From stable boy to millionaire wasn't bad going.

Joan's great grandfather Charles Bester was born in Warboys. He was a policeman for three years until he embarked on the

profession of mole catcher. Charles Bester's occupation became a family business and in 1911 Charles was a mole catcher in Wimblington and his son Charles was a mole catcher in Doddington. When his son died the tradition, knowledge and skills died with him.

Sylvia's great uncle James Murrell joined the West Kent regiment at the age of 15 as a drummer boy. The life of a drummer boy appeared rather glamorous and as a result boys would sometimes run away from home to enlist. Although there were usually official age limits these were often ignored. James fought in India for twelve years and served in the army until 1919, ending after the Great War when he served as a gunner.

### Maynard's fruit gums

Lynda's ancestors were Master and Matron of a workhouse, Brian's was a sweep in London, while Mary had a professor of music which impressed us greatly. Evan's ancestor was connected to Maynard's fruit gums and we all sucked on samples as he told us about their factory. Chris had a cabinet maker, Fran a silk weaver, Nina a surgeon, Alison a stoker in the merchant navy, Eileen's ancestor worked on the railway and Lainey's was a lighterman on the fens.

Anne found her third cousin twice removed proved to be very interesting. Salvatore was born in Sicily but moved to America when he was 10. The family lived on the East Side of Manhattan. He changed his names to Charles but was known by his nickname 'Lucky'. He turned out to be Lucky Luciano the infamous Mafia Boss of the 1930's. He earned \$4 million dollars a year during the days of Prohibition, but he never married

because he didn't want his son to be the son of a gangster. He ended up as head of the five crime families in America and died of a heart attack in 1962.

### Peruke Maker

And what about me? My fourth great-grandfather, William Stratton, was a Peruke Maker. He made wigs for gentlemen in the late 1700's. When the British Government decided to levy a tax of one guinea (£1:10) on the hair powder used on wigs in 1795 it made them so expensive they fell out of fashion. In 1797 William had become a ladies hairdresser which doesn't quite have the same ring as peruke maker does it?

From servants to millionaires, sweet maker to Mafia Boss the variety from our twenty members is amazing. Much laughter and gasps of surprise accompanied the stories told and we moved onto our next project wiser, and with greater appreciation of the work done by our ancestors.

If you are retired or semi-retired and would like to find out some fascinating facts about your family why not come and join us?

### Enid Hubbard

Group Leader Family History Group  
Ramsey and District U3A



## COMPANY PROFILE: Wellsbridge Motor Homes

## Local family run business offer Award Winning Customer Service

Founded 30 years ago by Harry Hyndman Senior, Wellsbridge Motorhomes of Ramsey Forty Foot is now a third generation family business and with Harry's sons, Lance, Harry and 'H', they have earned an enviable reputation supplying nearly new and good quality used motorhomes. Now Harry Senior's grandchildren Lance Junior, Myles and Sophie also work for the company.

Wellsbridge boast a purpose built showroom which is one of the largest in the country, show-casing 100+ motorhomes as well as a substantial area for accessories. In addition and adjacent to the showroom there is a lounge with comfortable seating and free drinks for clients in a non-smoking environment. The showroom and lounge are situated on thirty two acres of grassland by the River Nene.

### Expert advice

Brothers Lance and Harry are ever present to offer expert advice to prospective buyers and they pride themselves on covering every aspect within the buying process. They have even been known to provide a courtesy car to the railway station for clients to reach the sales site, as they also have motor home storage facilities.

Younger brother 'H' runs PBS Services in Ramsey Mereside and from their large, fully equipped workshops his team of mechanics cover spraying, paintwork, PDI, servicing, repairs and fitting new accessories.

### Awards

Lance and Harry, in 1998 and 1999 were voted runners-up for 'Team of the Year' and 'Dealer of the Year' and also received 'Awards of Excellence' by Swift Group. The 'Awards of Excellence' were awarded for scoring the highest customer satisfaction rating.

They also won the Practical Motorhome Owner Satisfaction Gold Award in 2014 and 2015 for pre-owned motorhomes. They are particularly proud of this because they achieved a satisfaction score of between 80 and 100 percent for all areas of ownership, reliability and quality.

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## BOOK REVIEW

*Calm Like Home*

by Kaisa Clark

Secrets, lies, anger, resentment; all four words encompass Adam's inner turmoil. He is a haunted character who hides behind smiles, a cool façade and a painful past which he cannot escape. It becomes abundantly clear that Alexi is the key to unlocking these secrets and with her comes a love like nothing else.

Although intense, the relationship doesn't feel too forced. It covers natural insecurities within any relationship; both are unable to say what they truly feel, which inevitably leads to that conflict which is much needed in a book such as this.

Young adults from all over would find this story line particularly interesting as it covers the carefree lifestyles of college grads embark on parties, drinking, and sex.

Alexi's inner monologue really allows you to delve into her deepest reservations. Although her conflicting emotions could make the avid reader's head swim, you begin to justify her actions. Clark ensures that the she has been introduced well. Adam meanwhile is the mysterious type, however we expect this as Alexi is the only view point we encounter.

It would have been a great advantage to invest some time into other characters

instead of limiting it to the protagonists. Damian for example is Adam's eternal sidekick and would have been an interesting character to read about. As would Annabelle, Alexi's right hand woman. Possibly there is scope to find out about their views in a novella perhaps?

The pacing of the book is very well done. There is a definition in the seasons which impacts on both readers' and Alexi's torment.

There is meaning behind the title that only becomes clear upon reading the book. One interpretation could be that the home doesn't necessarily have to be defined as a place or a specific memory; it can be a person with which you build your life around. Alexi amplifies this theory by explaining that when Adam is gone, her apartment is not the same anymore.

I think Clark succeeded in portraying in her writing a couple whose souls were meant to be intertwined. It gives any reader the assurance that love can still be found within the depths of despair.



Reviewer  
Catherine Verrechia



# RAMSEY WALLED GARDEN RECIPE OF THE MONTH



## Chicken with Tomatoes and Honey

This chicken dinner is very easy to prepare as the onions do not need frying first.

Serves 2

2 chicken breasts  
3 tablespoons of butter (or sunflower oil if you prefer)  
1 onion chopped very finely (or grated)  
1 garlic clove crushed  
1 tsp of ground cinnamon  
¼ tsp ground ginger  
1 tin of tomatoes (or 500 gm tomatoes skinned)  
2 tbs of runny honey  
Salt and pepper

Garnish (optional)  
25 gm flaked almonds  
1 tbs sesame seeds

**SERVES  
2**

Chop each chicken breast into 3 or 4 pieces and place in a pan with the butter or oil, tomatoes, onion, cinnamon, ginger and salt and pepper. Bring to the boil and cook very gently with the pan covered for about 45 mins stirring occasionally to make sure it does not stick. Add water if it is getting too thick.

When the chicken is cooked stir in the honey and heat through.

For the garnish, fry the almonds in a small amount of oil or toast them and the sesame seeds in a dry frying pan or toast under the grill.

This can be served with couscous, rice or potatoes and a salad or a seasonal vegetable such as runner beans.

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If you have, we'd like to know your thoughts!

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# NATIONAL HERITAGE OPEN DAY

Sunday September 13th

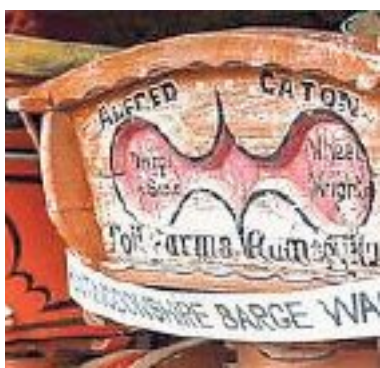
Enjoy Ramsey's history and heritage for FREE

By Ann Cuthbert, Ramsey's Promotions Officer

Ramsey is a town bursting with heritage and, on September 13th, will be celebrating National Heritage Open Day with free entry to 9 sites. There is plenty of parking and a free vintage bus will be available all day to take visitors from place to place, including out to Ramsey Mereside to the Fenland Light Railway and to Ramsey Heights to the Great

Fen Countryside Classroom. In town there is a new attraction this year with the old fire station opening its doors with a display of the history of the building for the first time. On the day everyone can pick up a "passport" from any of the participating heritage sites. It includes a map and a few lines about the history of each place and there will be an opportunity to win a cash prize if you get your passport stamped at all the venues.

Refreshments will be available at the Ramsey Rural Museum, the 1940s Camp, the Old Fire Station and the Fenland Light Railway as well as the pubs and selected cafes in the town. The Abbey House and Gatehouse will be open and manned by National Trust volunteers. You will have the chance to view the "Lady Chapel" and decide for yourself whether it was a chapel or the monk's refectory – even the historians can't agree on this one! The Mortuary Chapel will be open and you can pick up some produce from the Walled Kitchen Garden.



## COMPETITION



Can you spot where these three photos were taken? They are all taken from the nine heritage attractions. Answers to [promotingramsey@gmail.com](mailto:promotingramsey@gmail.com) for a chance to win a t shirt!

**DO SOMETHING NEW** **heritage open days**

**A Snap-Shot of Ramsey**  
Sunday 13th September 2015  
11am - 5pm

Once again you are invited to take this unique opportunity to find out about the heritage of Ramsey all in one day.

Come and experience the 1940s Camp, Ramsey Rural Museum, Ramsey Walled Kitchen Garden, Abbey Gatehouse & Lady Chapel, Mortuary Chapel, Horse & Railway, Self-guided Town Walks, Thoran a Becker Church, The Old Ramsey Fire Station (now Scout Hutt), Fenland Light Railway, The Great Fen & have a go at Archery with the Ramsey Riders.

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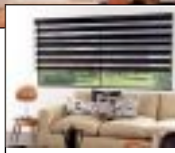
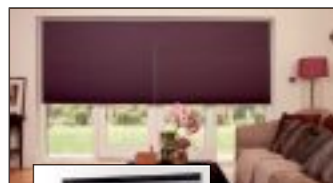
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Weekly or fortnightly visits can be arranged to suit. I care about your garden along with your pocket.

If you'd like further information, please send me a text or call me on 07762 037 163 and I will call you back.

~~Jules~~



## Vara puts pressure on Council

Shailesh Vara, MP for North West Cambridgeshire, has taken a stand on a number of local issues this month, including a review of the street lighting in Bury and potential dangers on the River Nene.

Mr Vara, recently returned from Westminster with new ministerial responsibilities, has written to Mark Lloyd, Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire County Council, on two occasions, urging him to consider putting safety barriers along the River Nene in Ramsey and to review plans to switch off street lamps in Bury at night.

IN the case of the River Nene, Natalie Scotchford tragically drowned two years ago and her friends are now campaigning for the location of the accident to be made safer. Rebecca Elliott-Peck has contacted Mr Vara following which he has written to Mr Lloyd asking him to look into the feasibility of putting up safety barriers along this treacherous piece of road.

Speaking of the issue, Mr Vara said that "This is a site on the River Nene which took away the life of Natalie Scotchford, a young woman who had so much to live for. It is important that we do all we can to prevent future tragedies and I have therefore asked the county council to look into the feasibility of putting up safety barriers along this part of the river. I commend Rebecca and her friends in trying to ensure that future tragedies are avoided."



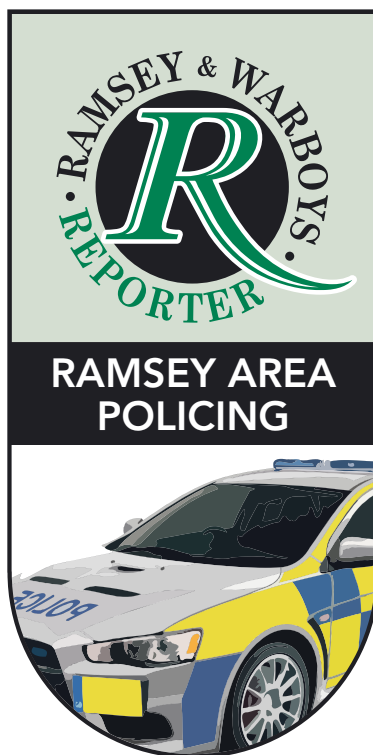
Campaigner Rebecca Elliott-Peck added "to put into words how much this campaign means to myself and so many others is not done with ease. However, I will start by saying we are not the first to fight for such protection along this river and until something has been done I can assure you we will not be the last.

Barriers, no matter the cost, will save lives and provide safer roads for those living in the area, I and many others believe that is vital. How many more will we have to lose before we realise enough is enough? We need to act now."

With regards to Bury, the village has been chosen as one of sixteen parishes in Cambridgeshire which will be controlled by a Central Management System. This will mean that the street lights can be controlled remotely, via mobile internet signal, and would be switched off completely for a certain period each night.

(continued on next page...)





## Shed Burglaries in Wistow

In my last Reporter article I warned about the danger of shed burglaries during the summer months. During July and August there were very few such burglaries in Ramsey and Warboys but there were several in one night at the end of July in Wistow.

Two suspects were arrested for a series of burglaries that had previously occurred in Hollow Lane. Please continue to be vigilant with your home security and make sure that everything is locked away when not in use.

We have found that many of the items stolen in shed and garage burglaries are sold on at car boot sales and internet auction sites. The problem we have is identifying this property; there were thousands of Flymos made, how do we know which one is yours?

## Serial numbers

Most power tools have a serial number on them, record this and keep it somewhere safe. Better still get it security marked or just put some sort of identifying mark on it. The same goes for bicycles. Cycling is probably the fastest growing sport and leisure activity in the country at the moment and lots of people are spending small fortunes on fancy two wheeled steeds then not recording any details about them.

(...continued from previous page)

Mr Vara along with local councillor, Cllr Peter Bucknell, and Mr John Prestage, Chairman of Bury Parish Council, are concerned about the plans and feel that there could be serious implications for both pedestrians and motorists. Mr Vara commented that he "very much hope that common sense will prevail", while Cllr Peter Bucknell added that he was "totally shocked to read the proposals to switch-off the majority of the street lights in the village of Bury and have requested justification from the County Council. Why do seventeen parishes have Central Management Systems whilst, thankfully, the other sixty seven Huntingdonshire parishes do not?"

All cycles have a frame number stamped underneath the pedal boss, how many people have made a note of it? We have some excellent cycle descriptive forms on which you can record everything about your bike from the size and make of the wheels to the shape of the handlebars. This is particularly useful to us because if the bike is stolen you can send us a copy of the completed form, then we have a full description of the bike to help us to return it to you if it turns up. To obtain one of these forms please contact us by e-mailing [huntscoops@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:huntscoops@cambs.pnn.police.uk).

There continues to be sporadic damage caused in Warboys. This damage has been caused to community facilities such as playground equipment and sports facilities. Many people work very hard to provide these facilities for the community and it is very sad when mindless vandals spoil them. I would encourage parents and guardians to ensure they are aware of what their child is doing when they are out, especially during the evenings. If you have any information that might lead to the identification of those responsible for these crimes please contact police by dialling 101 or by e-mailing the huntscoops address above.

## Forum Meeting

Ramsey Policing team will be holding a Police / Public forum meeting at De Ramsey Court, Warboys at 7.30pm on Thursday 15th October. This is a public meeting so everyone is welcome to attend. Please come along to hear the latest updates on policing in the area and discuss any local issues.

Best wishes,  
Sergeant Andy Street



Mr John Prestage, Chairman of Bury Parish Council added:

"I am alarmed that whilst we are offered consultation, the only option is how many lights the village wishes to fund. There is to be no discussion on the designation of major traffic routes through our village - yet again the local voice is ignored as irrelevant."

It remains to be seen how these protests will affect the debate. However, Mr Vara has been instrumental in the success of several regional campaigns since his election, and will no doubt add weight to the issue.

if you have an opinion, please get in touch at [mail@ramseyandwarboysreporter.co.uk](mailto:mail@ramseyandwarboysreporter.co.uk)

# END OF YEAR SALE

STARTS Saturday 12th September

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# COMMUNITY NEWS DESK

## Benwick Village Hall

### 2015

#### SEPTEMBER

19th Indoor boot sale £7 a table sell your own bits and take home what you don't sell 11 – 3.00pm

#### OCTOBER

17th Murder mystery evening 7.30pm £10 buffet supper

#### NOVEMBER

27th Psychic supper 7.30pm £15 ticket only

#### DECEMBER

5th Family disco £5 a family  
Fancy dress for kids theme Nativity  
12th Christmas Tombola eyes down 7.30pm

### 2016

#### JANUARY

23RD Burns Night dinner 7.30pm

#### FEBRUARY

11th Bridal show

#### MARCH

17th Psychic night

#### APRIL

15th Ladies Night 7.30 pm till late

#### MAY

7th VE Day dance

#### JUNE

17th Tombola

### BENWICK INDOOR CAR BOOT SALE/ TABLE TOP SALE

SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015

BENWICK VILLAGE HALL

11am TILL 4pm



sellers can set up from 9.30am

**£7 A PITCH**

Tea & coffee  
Info from 07879056614

## Ramsey Scouts Open Weekend

Ramsey Cub and Beaver Scout Group will be celebrating the opening of their newly refurbished Scout hut in Ramsey by holding an Open Weekend on the 12th and 13th September, to coincide with the Ramsey Heritage Day.

The intention is to highlight the history of

scouting in Ramsey and also the heritage of the scout hut as it used to be Ramsey's old fire station in the 70s and 80s.

Opening times will be 10am – 4pm each day.

All are welcome to attend and to have a look round.

## Mereside Village Association wins Funding to improve lighting at Village Hall.

The Glassmoor Environment Fund has awarded the Mereside Village Association, a grant to install two wind and solar powered lights in the grounds of the village hall.

These will illuminate poorly lit areas of the Village Hall grounds along the public footpath and the entrance area of the car park. Local residents are keen to support the bid as these dark areas are often avoided during the winter months.

As an environmentally conscious organisation the MVA wanted an energy neutral project utilising wind and solar power. By using self-powered lighting units on this project, valuable mains electricity



will be saved. In addition, the installation will not involve cabling above or below ground.

By lighting this access footpath more residents will feel able to walk to hall events instead of driving, saving resources and reducing pollution

**For more information, please contact Mike Stitson, Vice Chair MVA at [themeresider@aol.com](mailto:themeresider@aol.com)**

FLR

## Fenland Light Railway

Mereside Drive, Ramsey Mereside. PE26 2UE

The Fenland Light Railway is a 7 1/4 inch gauge Narrow Gauge Railway Operating Steam, Electric and Petrol locomotives.

We hold running days at our purpose built track as well as attending many local events with our portable track.



We are open at our railway in Ramsey Mereside:

September 6th and 20th - 10.00am – 5.00pm

October 18th - 10.00am – 5.00pm

October 31st – Halloween Special - 2.00pm – 8.00pm

Train Rides £1 all ages per ride

Drinks (Tea, Coffee and Cold Drinks) 60p

Homemade cakes from £1 per slice

Bookings now been taken for our Santa Specials - Please see website

[www.fenlandlightrailway.co.uk](http://www.fenlandlightrailway.co.uk)

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Saturday 12th September

11-5pm

£5.00 per child.

The Ashbeach School  
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of all ages



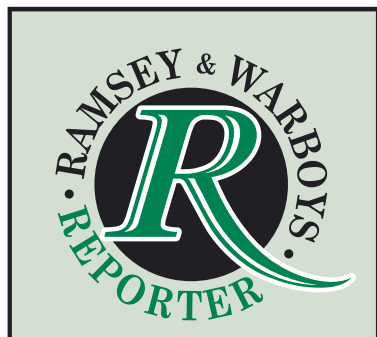
Rocking  
Rodeo

Bouncy  
Castles

BBQ

Money raised going to The Ashbeach School





## KIRA'S CORNER



### EXAM RESULTS

First of all, huge congratulations to everyone who did well in their A Level and GCSE results! For those who have been reading all of my advice for university and A Level tips, I thought I'd let you know that I got into Anglia Ruskin and will be studying Film and Media as a BA Honours Degree starting this month. After much deliberation and changing my UCAS application last minute (I decided I didn't want to leave home) I am extremely excited, yet a little nervous for my new adventure. I wish all of my readers embarking on their own personal journeys the very best.

### 18th BIRTHDAY

As some of you may have known, it was my 18th Birthday on results day and I couldn't have had a better day. Here's a few reviews on the places I went:

### St Ivo School, St Ives - 8.30am (A Level Results)

I know it's a school but it deserves a mention, the amount of times I struggled with my subjects I always had my teachers there to help me out and offer advice. Even on results day there were various teachers who attended to see how students did. It may not be the most local school for our area, but it's worth considering. I had the best 7 years there and wouldn't have changed them for the world. Mentioned also because of the wonderful work Martin McGary has done as acting head teacher, who resides in Warboys.

### Loads Of Cakes, Ramsey - 9.30am

A home run business that makes deliciously tasting and appealing to the eye cakes. I ordered a giant cupcake which included a vanilla sponge with vanilla buttercream filling topped with candy floss flavoured buttercream piped into roses. Honestly, I've never seen a cake go down so well! Extremely reasonable pricing and the



time and care were taken to achieve exactly what I wanted; not to mention how yummy it was. I will definitely be using Loads Of Cakes again, 5\*.

### The Varsity Hotel & Spa, Cambridge - 12pm

Honestly one of the best places to go if you're looking for a getaway that's not too far from home. This was my second visit booking through a website called Spabreaks.com which offers some really good deals including two treatments and full use of the facilities for just £64! Personal treatment recommendations would be the Elemis Express facial and the back, neck and shoulder massage - lovely!

### The Taproom, St.Ives - 4.30pm & 9pm

A well-known meeting point in St.Ives which offers a relaxing atmosphere in the day time and a lovely atmosphere in the evening. I ended up going twice (once for BBQ chicken nachos and once for drinks) in one day with various friends and family. An all-round great place with the best nachos for miles.

### The Riverport and Grill, St.Ives - 7pm

Formerly known as Surf & Turf, the owners have given the restaurant a rebranding following the recent change in title of St.Ives Town Centre to The Old Riverport. With modern, tranquil decor and a simplistic menu that offers reasonably priced yet completely fresh food, you really cannot go wrong. I tried the 'St.Ives' burger with chips - yummy! Big thumbs up from me.

### Revolution, Cambridge - 11pm

As you can probably tell my day was rather busy but it ended with a spot of nightlife with my friends. Honestly, I wasn't that impressed with Revolution (also known as Revs). They let far too many people in which made it quite dangerous when trying to manoeuvre around the building, despite it being on three floors. Not to mention the bar staff which seemed to only serve those in the centre of the bar and ignoring those either end. I'm not ruling it out, the DJ played the song I requested within five minutes but I think I'll go back on a night that isn't as busy as A Level Results!

Tip: Request 'I can't feel my face' - The Weeknd, if you want your song to come on quickly. It went down well. As some would say - TUNEEEEEE!



## Daytime short courses available now

As you return from holidays and the summer starts to fade it's time to think about what the autumn has in store. Why not have a look at the series of short courses on offer to adults in Ramsey? The Buddyplus series is back and offers even more this year for you to dip into and enjoy. All the courses are Free; they run during the day from Ramsey Library for 2 hours each session and last either 4 or 5 weeks. Subjects range from those to make you feel better about yourself like Confidence and Assertiveness to those which help you get more from a limited income such as cooking on a budget or money management. Maths and English are both on offer again so you can brush up your skills or learn from scratch if you feel that you missed out at school - all teachers are friendly, approachable and experienced in teaching adults. Class sizes are small, usually about 8 people, with a mixture

of working styles that are informal and nothing like school.

For people who are looking for work or a better job we have a longer Functional Skills course in Maths that runs from Abbey College on a Wednesday evening for several months. Start date yet to be agreed but will be sometime this autumn. This course leads to a qualification that means it opens doors with employers or colleges so is highly valued.

To hear more about Buddyplus adult learning you can also hear us on Huntingdon Community Radio (HCR104fm) on the 'Over to You' programme on 1st September between 7-8pm.

**If you would like to know more or to sign up for a course please contact Penny on 01487 814897 or email her at [penny.litchfield@huntingdonshire.gov.uk](mailto:penny.litchfield@huntingdonshire.gov.uk) or text to 07810 637566.**

## FREE Buddy-Plus Courses

Buddy-Plus Free short courses are designed to make you feel more confident and able to deal with the challenges life throws your way. They are informal courses run by teachers experienced in teaching adults, so they can help you feel more comfortable. After attending a Buddy-Plus course you will be able to move on with your life, whether that is at home, at work or to continue learning. Buddy-Plus Courses are held in Ramsey at various locations throughout the town - see details below. Come and meet new people or bring a 'buddy' it's up to you. Take that first step to open the door to your future!



### How to Book a Place?

Ask for details at Ramsey Library

Ask for details at Ramsey Children's Centre

Ring the Neighbourhood Office on 01487 814897

Send a text message to 07810 637566

Email: [penny.litchfield@huntingdonshire.gov.uk](mailto:penny.litchfield@huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

Please note ALL participants must be 19+

### Coming in 2016

- ⇒ Money Management
- ⇒ Confidence
- ⇒ Cookery on a Budget
- ⇒ Motor Mechanics
- ⇒ DIY

Course	2015 Start Dates
First Aid	Wednesdays, 10am - 12pm, Ramsey Library September 30 <sup>th</sup> - October 21 <sup>st</sup> (4 Sessions)
Confidence Boost	Mondays, 10am - 12pm, Ramsey Library Sept 28 <sup>th</sup> , Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup> (5 Sessions)
English	Thursdays, 10am - 12pm, Ramsey Library Oct 1 <sup>st</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup> (5 Sessions)
Functional Skills - Maths	Dates tbc, 7pm - 9pm, Abbey College
Assertiveness	Fridays, 10am - 12pm, Ramsey Library Nov 1 <sup>st</sup> - Dec 4 <sup>th</sup> (5 Sessions)
Cookery on a Budget	Saturdays, 10am - 12pm, Abbey College Nov 14 <sup>th</sup> - Dec 5 <sup>th</sup> (4 Sessions)
Maths	Mondays, 10am - 12pm, Ramsey Library Nov 30 <sup>th</sup> , Dec 7 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> , Jan 11 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> (5 Sessions)



## ADVERTISE WITH US

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# BOSH! An incredible success for the third year running



The BOSH (Bring On School Holidays) play scheme returned for its third year thanks to support from the Ramsey Million Partnership. This year the staff team were employed locally by Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust (RNT) who were asked to be the Locally Trusted Organisation for this project. They manage the project funds from the Big Local lottery pot, deal with admin, DBS checks, risk assessments and insurance.

Carol Aston, Chair of the Trust said "Overseeing the development and delivery of the BOSH scheme has been amazing and very rewarding. I've spent quite a bit of time down at the Cricket Club and the enjoyment the children get is so evident from the smiles and laughter all day long. It has been good to chat to both parents and the children. I would like to praise the RNT staff team who have worked so hard to deliver a great programme for local families. We will also be consulting with parents to see how we can improve again for next year".

BOSH had its best year to date, with awareness amongst families growing and many sessions full to capacity. The two weeks kicked off with a family fun day on Sunday 2nd August held at the Cricket Club, giving parents an opportunity to meet the staff team. The play scheme started on Monday 3rd August and throughout the two week programme children got the opportunity to take part in varied activities which included screen printing, tile painting, sports, dance and fitness, music sessions and so much more! The trip to BeWILDerwood in Norfolk, a treat for the final day of the scheme was a sell-out. The children had a fantastic time as the photographs show.

For more information on BOSH or any other Ramsey Million project please contact:

**General Enquiries & Community Development Worker**

• **Email:** ramseymillion@gmail.com  
playscheme.ramseymillion@gmail.com

• **Tel:** 07955 817137

• **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/ramseymillion  
www.facebook.com/crunchramsey

• **Twitter:** @RamseyMillionBL

• **Web:** www.ramseymillion.org.

• **http://localtrust.org.uk/get-involved/big-local/ramsey**

**Promotions Officer**

• ann.cuthbert@camsacre.org.uk  
• 07904 418936



## CRUNCH Time for Youth Activities in Ramsey

We know many were disappointed when the Chaos youth club organised by the County Council closed its doors earlier this year due to staffing issues.

Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust are delighted to announce that, with funding from Ramsey Million and Ramsey Town Council plus premises provided by Cambridgeshire County Council, a new club is to be formed called CRUNCH.

### Completely new club

Over the summer CRUNCH activities specifically for young people aged 11+ have already begun. This gave our youth workers the opportunity to start engaging with our young people. The new CRUNCH club will be held in the youth centre on the Abbey College site but this is a completely new club. The staff realise that listening to the young people of Ramsey is key to making CRUNCH a success. Over the next few months lead youth worker Mick Oliver and his team, employed by

Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust, will be working with our young people to find out exactly what they would like to see happening at CRUNCH. The first job will be to get the paint brushes out to do some redecoration. But the team won't be doing this alone – the young people will be encouraged to help out with both ideas and labour.

### Local volunteers needed

The employed staff will also be training local volunteers who have an interest in helping out. We want this new club to truly reflect our community so if you are interested please contact us. You will need to be prepared to undergo a DBS check and be able to complete Level 1 Youth Work Training which will be held on a Saturday.

We really want to get this right for our young people so we are not rushing into opening the club. The training sessions will start first and will run from September into October.

October half-term will be set-aside for redecoration and then the team will organise two promotional nights with live music (October 30th & November 27th). The club will begin operating on a weekly basis from 8th January 2016. Look out for more details very soon.

In the mean-time, if you are aged between 11 and 19, why not visit the CRUNCH Facebook page and tell us any ideas you may have about what you would like to see and do.

### Mick Oliver - Lead Youth Worker

Mick has over 20 years' experience working

with young people. He has led the team working on BOSH play scheme for the last three years in Ramsey and many of our young people are already familiar with him and his team. Mick has also led youth activities and trips for our young people including trips to Grafham Water and Gauntlet. He also trained the team who run AJ's Youthy – the club run at the British Legion Club for children between 5 and 11 years of age. Mick said, "It's great to be able to do more activities with the young people of Ramsey. I am looking forward to developing the club with them and seeing what great ideas they come up with."





# CROMWELL VETS

The Highway Code states: When in a vehicle make sure dogs or other animals are suitably restrained so they cannot distract you while you are driving or injure you, or themselves, if you stop quickly. A seat belt harness, pet carrier, dog cage or dog guard are ways of restraining animals in cars.

You might have the most well behaved furry friend who sits patiently, but are you 100% sure that they wouldn't jump at you if they got scared or jump across you if they see a dog on the pavement next to you? Don't forget there's also a risk to them if you suddenly break – pets have been known to be thrown through windshields in serious accidents. Large unrestrained dogs also pose a risk to you if they go into the back of your chair (or you!) with a sudden stop.

For the safety of everyone - we urge you to please harness or cage your pets whilst you drive.

While we talk about cars we also like to highlight another item on the Highway Code;

Keep dogs on a short lead when walking on the pavement, road or path shared with cyclists or horse riders.

We wince when we see dogs on unlocked extender leads walking down the road. People think they have control because the dog is on the lead but remember length of the lead is not just ahead, it's a radius around you. If your dog is 10 feet ahead of you, they can also reach 10 feet to the side - and perhaps this is straight into a road. Sadly we have seen such cases with devastating consequences.

Please keep your pets safe – use restraints while in the car and walk them on a short lead only near roads!

Is your dog wearing a seatbelt?



If not, you could be breaking the law & invalidating your car insurance!

**Are you  
breaking  
the law?**



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01487 800199**  
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Sat: 9am - 12.30pm

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Based at our RCVS approved hospital in Huntingdon  
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## Mereside Village Association wins funding to enhance and extend sports and play facilities

The Mereside Village Association has been awarded a grant by the Amey Community Fund to support the installation of a children's activity trail and adult gym equipment in the Village Hall grounds.

Mike Stitson, Chair of the MVA said, "This will enhance and extend the sports and play facilities currently available to the community with all age groups now being catered for, as we will have fitness facilities to suit 1 to 101 in the community."

Installation will be completed by the end of October and the community will then have access at all times.

The Amey Community Fund awards grants to support community, environmental

and heritage projects run by non-profit organisations based in Cambridgeshire within 10 miles of a landfill site. The fund is managed by Cambridgeshire Community Foundation and is part of a voluntary environmental tax credit scheme called the Landfill Communities Fund.

More details about the Amey Community Fund are available at [www.cambscf.org.uk/Amey-fund.html](http://www.cambscf.org.uk/Amey-fund.html) or for additional information about the Mereside Village Association, contact Mike Stitson, Vice Chair MVA at: [themeresider@aol.com](mailto:themeresider@aol.com)



## Ramsey Writer Pens Two More

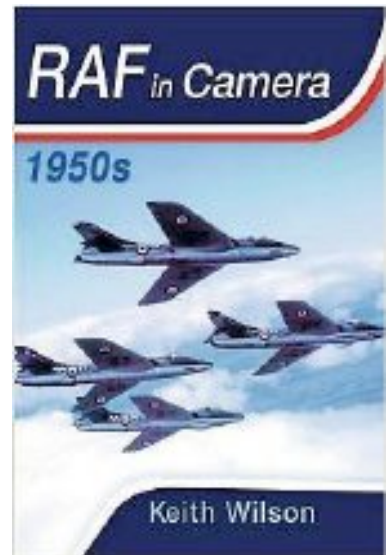
Author and Ramsey resident Keith Wilson has been capturing aircraft on film for decades, and flying them for just as long. Recently, he has taken to writing about them too. Now, he brings us two new installments, on the RAF through the ages.

In these brand new releases, Keith takes us through the inception of Jet Aircraft in RAF in Camera: 1950's, while following through to the bombers, closures and escapades of the next decade in RAF in Camera: 1960's.

Lavishly illustrated with images from the archives of the Air Historical Branch, both texts delve into the is a colorful and insightful history, told with narrative flair and a clear passion for the subject matter.

Both titles are available on Amazon, and more are planned for the series. A prolific and entertaining writer, Keith Wilson has plenty more in store for us over the coming years.

*Pictures courtesy of Kieth Wilson Book Cover (Below)*



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# Free Fitness Class Tasters on National Fitness Day

On Wednesday 9th September, One Leisure Ramsey is providing free activities for everyone as part of their involvement in National Fitness Day helping make it the most active day of the year in the UK.

People across the country will be given access to gyms, health clubs, leisure centres and park sessions throughout the UK as part of National Fitness Day – the country's largest celebration of physical activity.

With thousands of free events on offer, the aim is to inspire people to get moving while making it easy and fun to try something new with free taster sessions. National Fitness Day 2015 will build upon the success of last year, where nearly 2,000 venues opened their doors to run free exercise sessions, with the campaign reaching 27 million people across the country.

At One Leisure Ramsey, members and non-members alike will be able to take part in a selection of daytime and evening fitness classes for free.

These 30 minute tasters are introductions to the regular 50 minute classes and aimed at beginners or those who have not tried the class before. You can choose to do just one or as many as you want.

9.20am to 9.50am	Legs, Bums & Tums
9.50am to 10.20am	Pump
10.20am to 10.50am	Zumba
10.50am to 11.20am	Boot Camp
6.00pm to 6.30pm	Step
6.30pm to 7.00pm	Core Blimey
7.00pm to 7.30pm	Boot Camp
7.30pm to 8.00pm	3 in 1 (Cardio, Core & Strength)

To book your free fitness class tasters please contact One Leisure Ramsey on 01480 387900.



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# RAMSEY ROTARY NEWS

## What happened to the Workhouse?

Ramsey Rotary Club and guests were entertained with an interesting illustrated talk on "The Workhouse" at a meeting in August by Upwood part time tutor Liz Carter. Liz is a member of the University of Cambridge ICE (Institute of Continuing Education) team.



Liz highlighted the history of three local Workhouses – Huntingdon, St Ives and St Neots together with background and set up of workhouses.

### Liz Carter

In England and Wales the workhouse, colloquially known as a spike, was a place where those unable to support themselves were offered accommodation and employment. Most were employed on tasks such as breaking stones, crushing bones to produce fertiliser, or picking oakum using a large metal nail known as a spike, perhaps the origin of the workhouse's nickname. The earliest known use of the term dates from 1631.

### Origins

The origins of the workhouse can be traced to the Poor Law Act of 1388, which attempted to address the labour shortages following

the Black Death in England by restricting the movement of labourers, and ultimately led to the state becoming responsible for the support of the poor.

The current Welfare State beginnings can be traced back to these times.

### Huntingdon workhouse

*Huntingdon workhouse, c.1905. © Peter Higginbotham*

The Victorian Union workhouse later became Walnut Tree House, and then Petersfield Hospital. The buildings have now been demolished and is now a housing estate.

### St Neots workhouse

St Neots workhouse main accommodation block from the south-west, 2001.

© Peter Higginbotham.

A small house at 2 Brook Street was once used as the St Neots parish poorhouse. The new St Neots Union workhouse was eventually built in 1841-2 at Eaton Socon.

The main building, later used as a veterinary centre for horses, is now known as the White House and used as residential accommodation.

St Ives workhouse was made over to council control in 1930 and sold to a developer in 1948. The building was eventually converted to private housing.

*Images courtesy of Peter Higginbotham/Mary Evans Picture Library.*



Huntingdon Workhouse



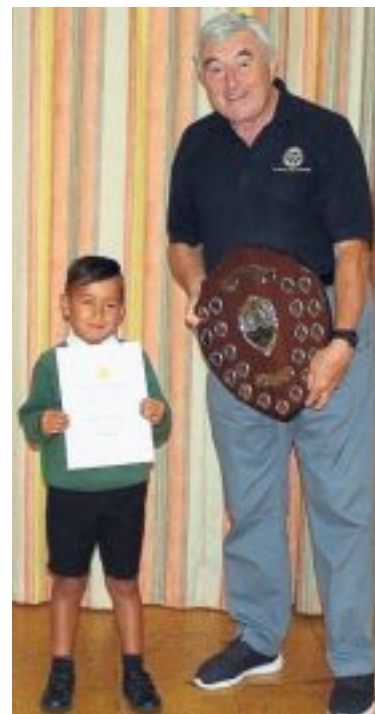
St Neots Workhouse

## Rotary Stars

Ramsey Rotary Club were pleased to present more local school children with their Rotary Star awards and gift vouchers.



Bethan Altridge from Ramsey Junior School. She wanted to raise money for Save the Children so she devised a maths quiz and made a charge for children to take part. She was able to raise £10.00



Upwood Primary School PHARRELL CHUENBAN. He is a charming newcomer to the school who is very polite and helpful and is a model pupil.



## FUN RUN

Ramsey Junior School, Fun Run Medals. They raised £388.62 to be spent at the school, the Children's Council will decide.

Ramsey Rotary Club together with colleagues from Grafham Water Sailability have teamed up to take part in sponsored Dragon Boat Race on 6th September at Wickstead Park Kettering. In an effort to get fit the team were given the loan of a boat and training session by St Neots Dragon Boat Team.

So far sponsorship money raised is £1,000 which will go towards a new cabin at the Grafham Water Sailability HQ, a charity based at Grafham Water, near Huntingdon, whose objective is simply to enable people with many types of disability to enjoy the thrill of sailing.

*The motley crew before training - What a difference an hour of instruction can make!*

## Practice for the real thing



Upwood School - Katie Philips 8-12 age group, Collected £204.50 in sponsorship.





# 2016 Holidays - Best time to book is Now!



OK so its still summer 2015 but already we have seen the best resorts sell out for some weeks next summer. It seems that a lot of people these days are returning from holiday and immediately booking for next year. Right now is possibly the best time to book next years holidays for several reasons.

## Choice

The earlier you book the more choice you have, whether it's the hotels, room types, flight times. You get to pick from the widest range and get the holiday you really want. Popular destinations and resorts sell out quickly, as do Tours, where spaces are limited.

## Offers

There are plenty of offers for you to take advantage of. Early booking discounts, free child places, no flight supplements, discounts from the listed brochure prices, often between 10 to 20%. Holiday companies have loads of savings which you can take advantage of by booking now. These are there to entice you now and won't be available later on.

## Deposits

You can book your holiday for a low deposit and relax and look forward to it. You have plenty of time to save up, knowing you don't have to pay the balance until 14 weeks before you travel. You can even pay it off in stages if you prefer. It's easier to manage your finances the earlier you book.

## Extras

This is a great time to pick up extras, such as free parking, lounge passes, upgrades to better rooms, better meal plans or on board spending for cruises, free lift passes for skiing breaks. You really do get the most for your money by booking early.



## Best Flight Deals

This is particularly relevant to anyone planning a long haul holiday, which uses scheduled flights. Airlines release their seats in batches, the first batch being the cheapest, once these are sold the next ones are released, but at a higher price, and so on. So the earlier you book your flight the cheaper it will be.

## Less Stress

Trying to plan a last minute holiday, that keeps everyone happy can be stressful. Booking early can mean making compromises, get the holiday you want, on the dates you want, in the resort you want, with the room type and meal plan you want. Avoid the stress and book your holiday early.

## Something to look forward to

Maybe one of the best reasons is having something to look forward to. Plan what your taking with you, spend time planning any trips you want to do, refresh your wardrobe with suitable clothes and enjoy the anticipation that comes with knowing your going on holiday.

To book your next holiday or to discuss anything travel related contact Susan or Ian on 01487 800009, Not Just Travel Anglia - we are your local Travel Agents.

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Holidays with a difference including treks, safaris, adventure holidays and more. Single, couples or families.



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# IS YOUR BUSINESS PRO-ACTIVE WITH ITS HR?

## Policies

Yes, it's boring, but good quality policies that fit a business needs can be hugely helpful. The time to discover the grievance policy is out of date, not fit for purpose, incomprehensible or non-existent isn't when someone wants to raise a grievance. Get the right policies in place in advance and they can help manage staff and deal with problems quickly and effectively. A good proactive HR provider will draft policies that suit how a business operates.

## Performance

Staff performance is relevant to every business, and being proactive can identify performance problems sooner, find the tools to address them quickly, make sure high performance is rewarded and acknowledged and identify training or other initiatives to enhance individual or team performance.

## Attendance

Good attendance is of course relevant to every business, but actually is often more crucial in small businesses, where there may not be a big team to cover the work of absentees, and might be less "give" in workloads. Proactive HR can help identify patterns of sickness absence early and address them quickly, reducing absence rates.

## Recruitment

Effective recruitment practices can dramatically increase chances of getting it right first time. Anyone who has worked in a small business where a poor initial recruitment decision resulted in lengthy and significant employee problems will know how important this is, and will understand the impact good recruitment can have. HR providers will help draft job descriptions, advertisements, interview questions, induction programmes and can provide high quality training to managers all of which will maximise the chances of successful recruitment resulting in high performers in your business.



If you are an employer and need more help and advice please contact me  
dawn.cross@face2faceHR.com

## Meeting Cllr Bucknell

Councillor Peter Bucknell has represented Bury and Warboys for over a decade in Huntingdonshire District Council. Last Month, we were able to sit down with him to discuss his time in service to the community, and his new role as Chairman of the Council.

Having moved into Cambridge in 1970, Peter is no stranger to the area. A family man with two children, he is currently approaching his fiftieth wedding anniversary, having spent the majority of his married life in the area. First elected in 2004, Peter holds a nearly spotless attendance record. Over tea in Ramsey, I ask how this role differs from that of a normal councillor.

Firstly, this new role comes with all manner of new responsibilities. As opposed to the Executive Chairman, who chairs the Cabinet, the Chairman drives the agenda and indeed the full council meetings themselves. Peter, an old hand after extensive experience as a chairman of several committees, is also expected to attend social and political events on behalf of the council, and becomes something of the public face for the body, in a similar way to a Town Mayor.

Indeed, it is the aforementioned committees that we spend most of the session discussing. When I ask for some of Peter's highlights, he speaks of his time on the Licensing and Planning committees as one of his highlights. "you are able to interact with people", he tells me, "and that is the best way to sort things out".

In between cups of tea, I am able to ask the question that has been nagging at me, namely why he chose to become a councillor,



especially while running his own business. "The business actually helps", he told me, "I was able to cut my hours down, and naturally you take up other roles."

As for how he has become one of the most recognisable councillors in the area, it comes down to people, which is Peter's true motivation. "It's great to be able to do something for the community as a whole, and if you work at it people do come to respect that"

# SWIMMING POOL TIMETABLE ONE LEISURE ST IVES

Timetable Effective From 1st September to 22nd September 2015

Mo	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Baby & Toddler Lessons 9.30 - 10.00	Private Use 10.00 - 11.00	Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	Adult Lanes 12.00 - 1.00	Private Use 1.00 - 3.30	Junior Lessons 3.30 - 6.00	Public Swim +1 Lane 6.00 - 7.30	Lane Swim 7.30 - 9.00	
Tu	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Private Use 9.00 - 11.00		AquaFit 11.05 - 11.55	Adult Lanes 12.00 - 1.00	Private Use 1.00 - 4.00	Junior Lessons 4.00 - 6.00	Public Swim 6.00 - 7.00	Lane Swim 7.00 - 8.00	Private Use 8.00 - 9.00
We	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Baby & Toddler Lessons 9.30 - 10.00	Aquanatal 10.05 - 10.55	Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	AquaFit 12.05 - 12.55	Private Use 1.00 - 3.30	Junior Lessons 3.30 - 6.00	Floata Fun 6.00 - 7.00	AquaFit 7.05 - 7.55	Lane Swim 8.00 - 9.00
Th	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Private Use 9.00 - 10.30		Adult Lessons 10.30 - 11.30	Adult Lanes 12.00 - 1.00	Private Use 1.00 - 4.00	Junior Lessons 4.00 - 6.00	Public Swim +1 Lane 6.00 - 7.30	Lane Swim 7.30 - 9.00	
Fr	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Private Use 9.30 - 11.00		Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	Adult Lanes 12.00 - 1.00	Private Use 1.00 - 3.00	Junior Lessons 3.30 - 6.00	Public Swim +1 Lane 6.00 - 7.30	Canoe Club 7.30 - 9.30	
Sa	Early Birds 7.30 - 8.30	Junior Lessons 8.30 - 12.00			Party Hire 12.00 - 12.50	Floata Fun * 1.00 - 3.00		Party Hire 3.00 - 3.50	Swimming pool closes at 4.15pm	
Su	Lane Swim 8.00 - 9.00	Family Fun 9.00 - 11.00		Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	Party Hire 12.00 - 12.50	Floata Fun 1.00 - 2.30		Public Swim + 1 Lane 2.30 - 4.00	Swimming pool closes at 4.00pm	

Timetable correct at the time of printing. Please visit [www.oneleisure.net](http://www.oneleisure.net) for the latest Pool Timetable. One Leisure Pool Regulations apply.



# Great summer at the Wildlife Trust Countryside Centre on the Great Fen.

## By Mandy Corney

The first week the children were able to take part in an underwater theme when the site was turned in to a big sea and pond world. All this tied in with National Marine week and the team were able to show the children that not so long ago the land in this area was once under water itself!

The transformation of sea to the boggy fens to the current landscape is hard to believe but is so important that this fascinating knowledge is shared. Indeed you don't have to walk very far along the river banks before you can find sea shells even today! The families enjoyed sea and pond crafts and went home loaded with items they had made.

## Animal tracks and trails

The second week it was animal tracks and trails that drew their imaginations. A fantastic time was had on the trail with children discovering what footprints belonged to which animals and again

they left with crafts and masks that they had made. At the time of writing the next day will be bees and butterflies and once again there will be an array of activities and crafts. The fen will be ringing with fun and laughter again.

After the summer holidays with the children settled back in school, the Great Fen Team will be entertaining the children again at the first October half term with "Freaky Fen Fun". An afternoon of spooky fun between 1pm and 3.30pm, - why not join us on the 28th October. Families can also come and find out about the fantastic work happening out on the Great Fen and the work of the Wildlife Trust. This event is being held in the beautiful surroundings of Holmewood Hall. This will be a day filled with exhibitions and fun family activities for all ages with refreshments also on sale.

For more information check out [www.greatfen.org.uk](http://www.greatfen.org.uk) or telephone 01487 815524





**WARBOYS  
PARISH COUNCIL**

APPOINTMENT OF  
**HANDYPERSON**

The Council has a vacancy for the appointment of a Handyperson to work for 30 hours per week at an hourly rate of pay of £7.90. Local government terms and conditions of service will apply.

Details of the job description can be obtained from the Clerk at the contact details shown below, to whom applications should be submitted in writing, together with the names and addresses of two references.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 18th September 2015.

Roy Reeves, Clerk to Warboys Parish Council,  
2 Blenheim Close, Warboys, Huntingdon. Cambs.  
PE28 2XF.  
e-mail – [roy.reeves@warboyspc.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:roy.reeves@warboyspc.freeserve.co.uk).  
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## 40's Weekend is



The 1940's weekend is always something special, and this time was no exception. Packed full of everything 40's, you would be hard pressed to think you had not stepped through a time bubble. Not just the sights, which include classic cars and fancy dress, but smells from the food tents and sounds of battle and ballroom echoing across the grass. Living History displays were located amongst the original wooden buildings, with vintage military, civilian and commercial vehicles exhibited all around. Re-enactors mingled with visitors, some of which were dressed even better, making it difficult to tell who was who. The canteen was open for spam sandwiches, bread pudding and anything else not on ration, while the smells coming from the wartime cooking demonstration immediately drew me into the Drill Hall. And this was all to be expected. Thirteenth time in, and it was still lucky for some! A real treat this year was the re-enactors, who went all out with a battle display that was complemented by a Spitfire and a YAK-52 doing battle with imaginary forces overhead.

The entertainment on offer is always first rate. This year there will be George Formby



performed on the Saturday, while regulars Adam Hoffman and Ian Rose returned to keep the crowds smiling. Run with a flourish by compere DJ Major Swing, the tunes went without a hitch.

Alongside this, performers played to a crowd of over 500 in the Big Top Circus tent, while more succinct displays and demonstrations were held in The Drill Hall. And what would a Camp be without

a parade ground, where the outdoor entertainers plied their trade.

Finally, a real treat was the return of the original Jones' van from the Dads Army BBC Television series at the Camp for the whole weekend, which went down very well, according to organisers. A lovely addition which proved last year that everyone still loves Dad's Army and the vehicle fits in so well with the wartime setting.







spectacularly successful!



The Spitfire - one of the most iconic images of the Second World War. All Photos: Cariad Photography - [cariadphotography21@gmail.com](mailto:cariadphotography21@gmail.com)







theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

# 100 Years On -The WI, as relevant today as in 1915

If you have been watching 'The Great British Menu' are were glued to the ITV series 'Home Fires' you will have not failed to notice that the WI is celebrating its centenary this year. Throughout villages and towns in the Ramsey and Warboys area groups of women meet in local Women's Institutes (WI) to make new friends, learn new skills and make a difference on matters that are important to them. However, did you know that the WI is the largest women's group in the country with over 212,000 members? - more than any of the three main political parties. Over the years the WI has managed to be both part of the establishment, and, at the same time, a deeply revolutionary organisation campaigning on issues from equal pay to climate change, from gaps in the midwifery workforce to the plight of the honey bee. The WI has built the reputation of a practical and ambitious organisation that doesn't shy away from tricky issues. To mark the centenary of this remarkable organisation celebrations are being held all over the country but what is the WI? Where and why did it start? Read on to find a 'very' potted history...(Picture 1)

## The Early Years

The WI originally started in Canada in the 19th century holding its first UK meeting on 16th September 1915, in Anglesey, Wales (Picture 2). It was and still is non-party-political, non-religious and open to women of all ages and classes - including royalty. Canadian Madge Watt was appointed to set up WIs across the UK during the WWI to encourage countrywomen to get involved in growing and preserving food to help to increase the nation's food supply. On October 16th 1917 the National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) was formed, when the annual subscription was set at two shillings giving everyone an equal say in this truly democratic organisation. Remember the WI was set up before women had the vote so then, as now, any member could stand for office or propose a resolution on which to campaign.

Many of the early members were some of the gutsiest women in the country, including academics, suffragettes, and social activists who realised that women working together were able to effect change. One of these women was Mrs Margaret Winteringham who was elected as Member of Parliament for Louth in 1921. She was the first English born female MP and only the second woman to take up her seat.

In 1919 'Home and Country', the original monthly NFWI magazine, was first published. This was succeeded by 'WI Life' in 2007 which is delivered to every member as part of their subscription. This magazine continues to be the main communication between NFWI and its members alongside the organisations growing number of Facebook and Twitter followers.

## Jam and Jerusalem

During WWI the Board of Agriculture allocated sugar to WIs for fruit preserving for communal use. Once again, in WWII, the NFWI was invited by the Ministry of Agriculture to organise a Co-operative Fruit Preservation Scheme. Between 1940 and 1945 more than 5,300 tons of fruit were preserved making use of nearly 12 million pounds of fruit, which might otherwise have been wasted. (Picture 3)

Jerusalem was first sung at the Annual General Meeting in 1924, starting a tradition that continues to this day. Previously Jerusalem had been used by the National Union of Suffrage Societies in the 1918 celebrations of women's enfranchisement and many of the leaders of the NFWI had also been part of the struggle to win the vote for women. By singing Jerusalem the WI acknowledged its links with the wider women's movement and affirmed its commitment to improving the conditions of rural life.

## The Denman Connection

Mention the word Denman to WI members and their immediate thoughts will be of the WI College in Oxfordshire, the home of WI learning, where hundreds of different craft, cookery and lifestyle courses are run for members and non-members alike (Picture 4). The WI Cookery School is also based in the grounds and boasts a vast range of courses. Over a period of three years, in the 1940's, every WI was invited to raise £10 and in 1946 Denman was bought. At this time of rationing curtains were made from bleached black-out curtains and Federations offered to equip the bedrooms. The college was named Denman College to honour Lady Denman who was the first National Chairman and, at the outbreak of the Second World War, she was also invited by the Minister of Agriculture to become the Director of the Women's Land Army.

## A Force to be Reckoned With

The WI has a long history of campaigning, changing things for the better by exerting their individual and collective influence. It has brought a series of controversial issues into the public domain and forced changes in legislation and government policy.

For example in the early 1990s the NFWI was one of the founding members of the Fairtrade Foundation and in 1986 was one of the first organisations to talk about AIDS. In 1975 the WI began lobbying the government to set up breast screening clinics and as early as 1964 members were debating the dangers of smoking in public places. In 1954 a campaign led to the formation of the Keep Britain Tidy group and a resolution calling for 'equal pay for equal work' was passed in 1943. (Picture 5)



## WI Leisure Activities – Competitive or Just for Fun?

From competitions, writing, photography, cookery, gardening, floral art, craft and drama to walking, dancing and circus skills WI members have tried them all. Did you know the WI is credited with bringing Zumba to the UK?

Craft is treasured by the WI as making an artefact tells and records stories as well



as protecting heritage and traditional skills. Craft brings together communities, generations and cultures and it can also be the perfect medium to discuss issues that affect women. However, the most inspiring thing about craft is its democracy; everyone can make something. (Picture 6)

So as you can see the WI has something for everyone so why not give it a go? Not all WIs are the same so if the first WI you visit doesn't suit you try another one or even set up your own! (Details of local WIs below.)

WI	Time & Date	Location
Abbey	2pm – 1st Thursday	Bury Village Hall
Holme	7.30pm – 1st Thursday	Holme Village Hall
Ramsey	7.30pm – 2nd Monday	Ramsey Community Centre
Ramsey St. Mary's	7.30pm – 3rd Wednesday	The Barn, Ashbeach School
Warboys	7.15pm – 2nd Wednesday	De Ramsey Court, School Rd
Wistow	7.30pm – 2nd Wednesday	Wistow Village Hall

## News from Local WIs

Ramsey St. Mary's - In August members organised an evening at Apollo Farm in Ramsey Heights where they were warmly greeted by Becks and her Newfoundland dogs. After a talk about these fascinating creatures some of the members 'canine friends' had great fun trying out the agility course - some with greater success than others!

On Wednesday 16th September there will be an open meeting where EVERYONE is welcome (including men!). Come along and help celebrate 100 years of the WI with musical entertainment from Sean Moyes (the banjo man), craft demonstrations and of course cake. The celebrations start at 7.30pm in the main school hall at Ashbeach School. Abbey WI meet on the first Thursday of the month at Bury Village Hall 2pm to 4pm. For more information please ring Janice Granger on 01733 349577.

**Abbey** - Our August meeting was our annual cream tea. Over 40 ladies attended with members of Ramsey, Holme and Ramsey St Mary's WI's joining us. Abbey WI ladies produced an assortment of sandwiches and various cakes including the WI Centenary Fruit cake, washed down with either fruit juice or Pimms and of course a cup of tea.

The 'Merry Makers' provided the entertainment for the afternoon with a medley of popular songs, which prompted a lot of foot tapping and singing.

The 16th September is WI day to mark 100 years of the WI and Abbey WI have organised a lunch for members as a way of marking this occasion. Our September meeting is Members Day which is organised by a small group of none committee members so is a closely guarded secret so more on that next time.

Abbey WI meet on the first Thursday of the month at Bury Village Hall 2pm to 4pm. Anyone who is interested can come along and see for themselves. For more information please ring Kate Temprell on 01487 813289.







## Local Peter Murphy talks about his books



The Friends of Ramsey Library have invited local Cambridgeshire author, Peter Murphy, to talk about his books. He has written five, three in the Ben Schroeder series (A Higher Duty, A Matter for the Jury and Is There Honey Still For Tea?) and two others (Removal and Test of Resolve). Peter Murphy had a legal career and worked as an advocate and teacher in England and The USA, then worked at the Yugoslavian War Crimes Tribunal. He returned to England in 2007 and became a Crown Court Judge. Tickets are available at Ramsey Library at a cost of £3, which includes light refreshments, and will take place on Thursday 17th September at 7.15pm in the library.

Visit [www.petermurphyauthor.co.uk](http://www.petermurphyauthor.co.uk) for more information about his books. Ramsey Library Board are holding their AGM in the library on Monday September 14th at 7pm. Everyone is welcome.

## Xidus Workshop

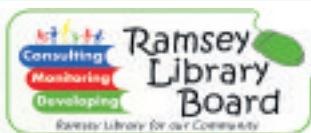
As part of Ramsey Libraries Arts Alive programme, a small group of talented young children joined award winning music practitioner Xidus Pain at an upbeat 2.5 day Lyrics Workshop. Xidus was both engaging and inspiring and worked with the children to produce raps and lyrics based around the children's likes and hobbies from dance to dogs. As part of the workshop children were encouraged to explore the library and select a favourite book and compile a lyrical narrative based on these books, with the help of Xidus who offered hints and tips about rhyming and where to add 'fillers' to enhance the narrative.

Ramsey Library Board are now in the process of organising our next programme of Arts Alive Events, which should be an exciting range of workshops and entertainment to suit all ages. If you have any ideas about what Arts Alive events you would like to see taking place at Ramsey Library please pass your comments on to [Naomi.peel@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Naomi.peel@cambridgeshire.gov.uk).



XIDUS WORKSHOP

# Ramsey Library Board AGM



- ◆ Ramsey Library
- ◆ Monday  
14th September
- ◆ 7pm
- ◆ Join us for tea & cake

**Everyone Welcome**

## COUNTDOWN TO RAM JAM

It's not many weeks to go before the return of the Ram Jam Children's Book Festival. New this year is the Early Years Ram Jam for children under 7. This is part of the Arts Alive programme and will take place at Ramsey Library from Saturday 10th to Saturday 17th October. Some of the events will be for schools, some will be ticketed and some will be open, but all are FREE. Two of the authors who will be at the library are Ruth Symes (The "Bella Donna" books) and Yuval Zommer ("The Big Blue Thing on the Hill" and "One Hundred Bones").

Ramsey Library Board and Cambridgeshire Libraries have arranged an interesting and exciting programme for Saturday 17th October at Ramsey Junior School. Using the grant money from Ramsey Million they have invited authors and illustrators to discuss their work. Among these will be Matt Brown (author of the best-selling "Compton Valance" books), Lizzie Finlay (illustrator of the "Compton Valance" series), Nicola Killen (Pop - up book expert), and Steve Antony (award-winning illustrator of "The Queen's Hat"). There will be various activities in the hall, including a book shop, and local artist



Marion Savill will be holding craft sessions. Again, many of these will be ticketed. All of the events are FREE and you do not need to attend the Junior School or be a member of the library to join in. Lion Learners will be appearing at Ramsey Library with stories and some fascinating animals for you to hold. Tickets will be available in September from the library, so look out for posters advertising the events. Children attending Ramsey schools will also have a flier in their school bag during September. If you didn't make it to Ram Jam last year make a note of the dates now, it will be a fantastically enjoyable time.



# RAMSEY STEAM AND VINTAGE SHOW

A GREAT SUCCESS IN ITS SECOND YEAR

*Pictures courtesy of Cariad Photography*



This month began with the Ramsey Steam and Vintage show, a lively gathering of hundreds of enthusiasts and vehicles from all over the country.

While the trains and steam engines took centre stage, there was something for everyone, with classic cars and military vehicles proving to be big hits.

Entertainment included a fantastic show from the Wild Bunch Cowboys, who delivered a brilliant display in a fashion that would have had Duran Duran singing to the rafters. Other wild boys were to be found in the beer tent, where live bands performed for the inevitable queue.

At the other end of the spectrum, there was fun for old and young alike at the Steve Williams old time funfair, while Pioneer Equestrian Supplies dog show drew one of the large crowds with an assortment of dogs, big and small, muscular and cuddly. Rosettes were handed out in a variety of unique and amusing classes.

Posting on social media, organisers thanked the exhibitors for coming along and everyone who contributed, stating that it was a "great weekend [with] great weather, a great atmosphere but above all a great selection of exhibits", adding "lets to it all again in 2016". At the Ramsey and Warboys Reporter, we couldn't agree more.





**Date: Friday 4th September**

**Title: Dog Workshop - Stop your dog pulling on the lead!**

Location: Ferry Meadows Country Park  
Do you feel like your arm is stretched several inches each time you walk your dog? Is your dog choking himself on what should be an enjoyable walk? This workshop will help you, and your dog, reduce this tension and to enjoy walks instead.

Times: 10:00am-12:00noon

Meet at: to be confirmed at time of booking  
Cost: £15

Accessibility: This event includes walking on uneven ground and/or crossing stiles and therefore may not be suitable for all abilities. Please call 01733 234193 for further details.

Booking: Essential. Please call Nene Park Trust on 01733 234193 or e-mail

visitor.services@neneparktrust.org.uk

Ferry Meadows lies 3 miles west of Peterborough and just two miles east of the A1 off the Oundle Road (A605). Brown tourist signs for Nene Park are on all major routes in the city.

**Date: Saturday 12th September**

**Title: Bark in the park**

Location: Ferry Meadows Country Park  
A day of fun and activities for dogs and dog lovers.

Times: 10:00am-16:00pm

Meet at: Visitor Centre

Cost: This event is free to attend although there may be a charge for some activities

Accessibility: This event includes walking on uneven ground and/or crossing stiles and therefore may not be suitable for all abilities. Please call 01733 234193 for further details.

Booking:

No need to book. For more information please call Nene Park Trust on 01733 234193 or e-mail visitor.services@neneparktrust.org.uk

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**Date: Wednesday 16th September**

**Title: Guided walk with a ranger**

Location: Ferry Meadows and surrounding area

Join Ranger Ian Lowe for a 6 mile guided walk around Ferry Meadows and the surrounding area. The route takes in many of the most iconic features of the park and during the walk Ian will give an insight into their history and ecology.

Times: 1:30pm-4:45pm

Meet at: to be confirmed at time of booking

Cost: Free. Suggested donation £2

Accessibility: This event includes walking on uneven ground and/or crossing stiles and therefore may not be suitable for all abilities. Please call 01733 234193 for further details.

Booking: Essential. Please call Nene Park Trust on 01733 234193 or e-mail



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**Date: Thursday 17th September**

**Title: Riverside Ramble**

Location: Ferry Meadows and surrounding area

Join a Ranger for a Ramble along the River Nene and through an autumnal Bluebell wood. Times: 10:00am-1:15pm

Meet at: Visitor Centre

Cost: Free. Suggested donation £2

Accessibility: This event includes walking on uneven ground and/or crossing stiles and therefore may not be suitable for all abilities. Please call 01733 234193 for further details.

Booking: Essential. Please call Nene Park Trust on 01733 234193 or e-mail

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**Date: Friday 18th September**

**Title: Dog workshop - Stop your dog chasing!**

Location: Ferry Meadows Country Park  
Does your dog love to seek out everything that moves? Bikes, birds, other dogs, joggers...? This workshop deals with the training you will need to help your dog to learn not to chase in an uncontrolled way.

Times: 10:00am-12:00noon

Meet at: to be confirmed at time of booking

Cost: £15

Accessibility: This event includes walking on uneven ground and/or crossing stiles and therefore may not be suitable for all abilities. Please call 01733 234193 for further details.

Booking: Essential. Please call Nene Park Trust on 01733 234193 or e-mail

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**Date: Tuesday 22nd September**

**Title: Discover Wild Food**

Location: Ferry Meadows Country Park  
Get tips on collecting and identifying wild food.

Times: 6:00pm-7:30pm

Meet at: to be confirmed at time of booking

Cost: Free. Suggested donation £2

Accessibility: This event is on surfaced paths and suitable for all abilities including wheelchair users and buggies.

Booking: Essential. Please call Nene Park Trust on 01733 234193 or e-mail

visitor.services@neneparktrust.org.uk

Ferry Meadows lies 3 miles west of Peterborough and just two miles east of the A1 off the Oundle Road (A605). Brown tourist signs for Nene Park are on all major routes in the city.



**Date: Wednesday 23rd September**

**Title: Bat Walk**

Location: Ferry Meadows Country Park

Join park rangers and members of the Cambs bat group for an informative presentation on bats. Follow this with a walk in the park to try and spot the bats that call Ferry Meadows home.

Times: 6:30pm-8:30pm

Meet at: to be confirmed at time of booking

Cost: Free. Suggested donation £2

Accessibility: This event includes walking on uneven ground and/or crossing stiles and therefore may not be suitable for all abilities. Please call 01733 234193 for further details.

Booking: Essential. Please call Nene Park Trust on 01733 234193 or e-mail

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**Date: Wednesday 30th September**

**Title: Birds in autumn**

Location: Ferry Meadows Country Park  
Autumn is one of the best times to look for migrant birds in the Park. This walk with Conservation Officer Chris Park will focus on some of the amazing journeys made by birds. Times: 9:30am-12:00noon

Meet at: Visitor Centre

Cost: Free. Suggested donation £2

Accessibility: This event is on surfaced paths and suitable for all abilities including wheelchair users and buggies.

Booking: Essential. Please call Nene Park Trust on 01733 234193 or e-mail

visitor.services@neneparktrust.org.uk

Ferry Meadows lies 3 miles west of Peterborough and just two miles east of the A1 off the Oundle Road (A605). Brown tourist signs for Nene Park are on all major routes in the city.



## Exciting new Badger play area

Following the success of the new Otter playground, which opened in Ferry Meadows in April 2014, Nene Park Trust have been working on a second playground improvement project. The current Overton play area will be transformed and known as Badger – building on the natural theme of the play trail project.

Working with the existing trees and nearby wooded areas Badger will include tall climbing trees, a long badger den with tunnels and bridges to explore, an in-ground trampoline plus slide, swings and much more.

Teresa Wood, Visitor Services Manager, said "Our aim has been to create a play space that is both exciting and accessible. Over

the recent months we have worked with Little Miracles (a parent led support group and Charity for families that have children with additional needs, disabilities and life limiting conditions), a Guide group and a local school as well as our staff team. Davies White, our landscape architects, then built on the ideas gathered to create a fun play area to explore and enjoy."

Andrée Davies, of landscape architects Davies White Ltd, said "Nature is the ultimate playground and that's exactly what we have designed here. Inspired by the local wildlife and landscape, the Badger playground is inclusive and fun for all the family."

The new Badger play area is set to open in spring 2016.

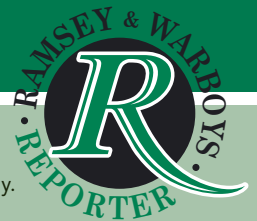


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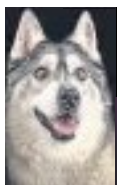
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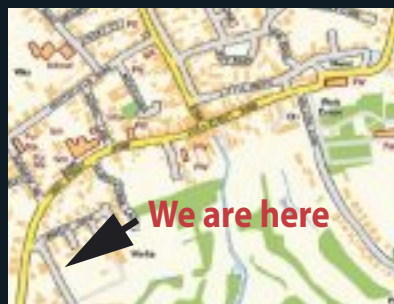
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12 Meriva 1.4 Turbo (Petrol) SE, Top of the Range, Red, 28,000 Miles.....	£7,995	£7,995	64 Corsa 1.2 SXi A/C 3Dr, Met Grey, Delivery Miles Only, Price New.....	£10,995	£9,995
61 Meriva 1.4 Exclusiv A/C, Silver, Parking Sensors, 19,000 Miles.....	£7,995	£7,495	64 Corsa 1.2 Excite 5Dr, Silver, Delivery Miles Only, Price New.....	£13,180	£9,995
60 Meriva 1.4 Exclusiv 5Dr, Silver, Air Con, Only 11,000 Miles.....	£6,495	£6,495	15 Viva 1.0 SL (Top of the Range) 5Dr, Met Blue, Air Con.....	£9,995	£9,995
<b>ASTRA</b>			<b>NOT QUITE A BUT NEW TO YOU</b>		
14 Astra GTC 1.4 SRi Auto, White, Sat Nav, 16,000 Miles.....	£14,995	£14,995	04 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 5Dr SXi, Silver, Air Con, 31,000 Miles, Lovely Example.....	£3,995	£3,995
64 Astra 1.6TD (Diesel), Met Grey, 13,000 Miles.....	£12,995	£12,995	04 Corsa 1.2 Design 5Dr, Silver, 52,000 Miles.....	£2,795	£2,795
64 Astra 1.4 Turbo SRi 5Dr, Black, 9,000 Miles.....	£11,995	£11,995	05 Corsa 1.2 Breeze 5Dr, Silver, 83,000 Miles.....	£2,695	£2,695
63 Astra Tourer 2.0TD SE, Diesel, Met Grey, 15,000 Miles.....	£11,995	£11,495	57 Mitsubishi Colt 1.2 3Dr, Red, 62,000 Miles, Ideal First Car!.....	£2,695	£2,695
61 Astra 2.0TD (Diesel) Elite 5Dr Auto, Black, 35,000 Miles.....	£9,995	£9,995	04 Peugeot 206 Estate 2.0, 76,000 Miles, Lovely People.....	£2,295	£2,295
11 Astra Tourer 2.0TD, Flame Red, 26,000 Miles, Lovely People.....	£9,995	£9,995	<b>OTHER MAKES</b>		
12 Astra 1.6 SRi Suto, Silver, 39,000 Miles, Local Car.....	£7,995	£7,995	10 Mercedes-Benz CL Coupé 180 (1.8 Petrol) Auto, Silver, Full Leather, 24,000 Miles.....	£11,495	£10,995
06 Astra TwinTop 1.8 Sport, Blue, 40,000 Miles.....	£5,495	£4,995	15 Hyundai i10 Premium, Met Blue, Only 998 Miles.....	£8,495	£8,495
57 Astra 1.6 Design 5Dr, Silver, Air Con, Local Car.....	£4,495	£4,495	59 Subaru Legacy (Estate) 2.0 Diesel, 81,000 Miles.....	£7,995	£7,995
08 Astra Auto Life 1.8, Metallic Blue, 85,000 Miles.....	£3,995	£3,995	05 BMW 320i Cabriolet Sport Auto, Silver, 63,000 Miles.....	£6,695	£6,695
<b>ZAFIRA</b>			62 Ford KA 1.2 Zetec A/C, Blue, 15,000 Miles.....	£6,695	£5,995
14 Zafira Tourer 2.0 Turbo Diesel, Met Black, 13,000 Miles, Sat Nav.....	£15,495	£14,995	58 Ford Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 3Dr, Met Blue, 62,000 Miles.....	£5,395	£4,995
12 Zafira 1.6 Design, Met Blue, 7-Seater, Lovely People.....	£8,995	£8,995	04 BMW 120i Sport 2Dr, Silver, 83,000 Miles.....	£4,995	£4,795
09 Zafira Exclusiv 1.9 Turbo Diesel Auto, Silver, 18,000 Miles.....	£7,495	£7,495	08 Nissan Note 1.6 Auto 5Dr, Met Red, 70,000 Miles, Local Car.....	£4,995	£4,695
07 Zafira 1.6, Black, 7-Seater, 57,000 Miles.....	£4,395	£4,395	08 Ford Focus 1.6 5Dr, Silver, Air Con, 42,000 Miles.....	£4,995	£4,695
<b>MOKKA</b>			58 Ford Fusion 1.4 5Dr A/C, Met Red, 44,000 Miles.....	£4,995	£4,595
64 Mokka 1.7 Turbo Diesel Tech Line, White, Sat Nav, Our Demo.....	£16,995	£15,995	58 Kia Carens 2.0 Diesel 5Dr, Silver, 29,000 Miles, Lovely People.....	£4,495	£4,495
63 Mokka 1.7 Turbo Diesel, Tech Line (Sat Nav) 5Dr, Silver, 16,000 Miles.....	£14,995	£14,995	08 Toyota Aygo 1.0 5Dr Ltd Ed, Silver, 24,000 Miles, Local Family.....	£4,395	£4,395
14 Mokka 1.7 Diesel Exclusiv, Silver, 10,000 Miles.....	£14,995	£14,995	09 Citroen Picasso (Estate) 1.6 Diesel, Blue, 85,000 Miles.....	£3,995	£3,995
14 Mokka 1.7 Turbo Diesel Exclusiv, Met Red, 19,000 Miles.....	£13,995	£13,995	06 VW Polo 1.4 Turbo Diesel 5Dr, Black, 86,000 Miles, Nice Example.....	£3,995	£3,795
<b>VECTRA</b>			<b>COMMERCIALS (Prices exclude VAT)</b>		
57 Vectra 2.0 Turbo SRi, Met Black, 58,000 Miles, Sat Nav.....	£3,995	£3,695	14 Vivaro LWB High Roof, White, Only 6,000 Miles.....	£13,995	£12,995

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# ARE YOU READY FOR BLACKSMOKE SYMPHONY?



When you think of Upwood, the first thing that springs to mind isn't necessarily what comes to mind. Local musician James Erskine, as the front-man for country pop-rockers Black Smoke Symphony, is hoping to change that.

When one passes the unassuming house on the corner of Bluntisham High Street, you would never imagine a fully equipped recording studio lies in the back room. However, this is the home of Stevie V, producer of chart topping records such as Dirty Cash (recently covered by Dizzie Rascal). In the back room, surrounded by monitors, switches and guitars, are the boys of Black Smoke Symphony recording their new song.

Recently moved to Upwood, James has been gigging for over a decade, having fallen in love with the country sound at what he describes as "almost an old-fashioned honky-tonk bar where I grew up". Not a full-time musician yet, James has been playing the pub circuits and smaller venues for some time, and admits that working alongside the music can be tough. However, he is fully focused on the band, to which he contributes a smooth modern edge with his passionate vocals, which combine with biting licks and a classic guitar sound to produce great country rock.

Obviously, James is not going it alone. Alongside

his lead vocals, Charlie Luscombe provides the lead guitar, while Will Makower lends a hand on the keyboard and provides backing vocals, which were largely the subject of our visit. Formed in February, Will and James have been working together for years, having started recording as young men on an old-style 8 track. It was several more years before James met Charlie, who he began playing the pub scene with a few years ago as an acoustic duo. When they decided to form Black Smoke Symphony, Will was their first call, and enthusiastically accepted. Having recently auditioned for drummers, the band is well on the way to breaking out of the pubs and getting on the road.

James also brings a modern element, to the music and the marketing. Alongside his melodic vocals and song writing talents, James has developed part of the band's image platform, including creating an app to go alongside the new single. Still in development, we can reveal this Rock Band-style mobile game will be hitting the shelves soon, allowing you to play along with the band's new hit. This new single, which we were fortunate enough to hear on the night, moves slightly away from their first release Wait all Night, bringing an upbeat tone.

Obviously, this isn't something that the guys want to reveal too much about, it being only the second single, but we can say there is plenty to look forward to. At the session we attended, legendary local producer Stevie V put the band through their paces, spending hours nailing the backing vocals until they were quite literally pitch perfect. James later informed us the session went on long into the night, so we can be assured of a great sound when the single drops at the end of the month.

Hitmaker Stevie V seems very confident in the boys, which are a slight departure from his usual style. "They have a great sound, it's fun to work with these vocals and I like their style" he told us. Does he think they have what it takes? "Absolutely. They can go far". How far? Well, the new line-up have just had their first gig at Upwood's own Cross Keys, and it was a good one.

Next month, we'll be revisiting the boys and seeing how their first gig went down.



## 12 YEAR OLD RAMSEY ROAD RUNNER WINS RACE FOR LIFE!

A 12 year old Ramsey Road Runner surprised the crowd at the Peterborough Race for Life on Tuesday 7th July by winning the event by quite a margin.

Olivia Mead was 1st out of over two thousand women taking part to raise money for Cancer Research and no one was more surprised than Olivia herself. "It was amazing and unexpected, to finish first and I would have been nervous running on my own but the lead cyclist was really nice," Olivia said. "The cheer I got from the crowd made me run a bit faster over the last field, some people looked a bit surprised to see a 12 year old first, I raised over £250 too, which was more than I'd hoped to get." She added.

The race was 5 kilometres and took place around Ferry Meadows in Peterborough. Olivia's mum Libby also took part, she said: "I was at the 4k mark and I heard over the PA system that Olivia had just crossed the line first. I was so emotional and shouted 'That's my daughter,' to the people

I was running with." "I was definitely a lot more nervous than Olivia was," she went on to say.

### Numbers grown

Libby has played a big part in Olivia's success, being the coach of the Ramsey Road Runners juniors she has seen their numbers grow extensively over the past few years. The hard work is definitely paying off.

At the March Fun Run last month Ryan Price and Oliver Williamson were 1st and 2nd, both representing Ramsey. Olivia was the first female in this race too, proving she is on an excellent run of form.

To keep up to date with all the latest Ramsey Road Runners results, visit their website at [www.ramseyroadrunners.org.uk](http://www.ramseyroadrunners.org.uk)

## RAMSEY CARPET BOWLS CLUB

### CHARITY MATCH REPORT



Ramsey Carpet Bowls Club recently held their Charity Match with one of the Ramsey teams coming a close second to Littleport.

The main aim of the day was to raise money for Sue Ryder and they raised £350. They also hold inter club competitions, the Phillips trophy and the Memorial pairs.

Their league team is in the North Cambs 1st division and there are a lot of charity days to play around the area if you like competition. They meet at Ramsey Community Hall on Fridays at 7.30pm if you wish to join them. For more information call Carol on 01487 813087.





# Ramsey turns back the cycling clock.



Cambridgeshire is no stranger to cycling but during the weekend of the 5th and 6th September the roads around Ramsey will throng to the sounds and sights of Victorian, Edwardian and 1920s/30s cyclists on original machines and in period costumes. The event is the 59th National Veteran Cycle Rally organised by the National Association of Veteran Cycle Clubs and the Retro Cycle Club and hosted by the Ramsey Rural Museum. The event is held over two days with a cycle jumble (10.00 am – 3.00 pm) at Ramsey Rural Museum and an informal ride on Saturday 5th September and the 59th National Veteran Cycle Rally on Sunday 6th September. The public will be able to experience the Saturday (5th September) ride pass through Ramsey Mereside, Pondersbridge, Ramsey St. Mary's, and Upwood between 12.00 noon and 3.00 pm. On the Sunday 6th September the

59th National Veteran Cycle Rally when all riders will be present and in costume, will leave from Ramsey Rural Museum at 11.30 to Ramsey Forty Foot, with a stop at The George (about 12.30), and back to the Museum via Ramsey town centre (about 1.45 pm). There will be around 100 riders on cycles dating from the 1860s to the 1930s, including Penny Farthings, boneshaker, early safety cycles, tricycles and more familiar and nostalgic 'sit-up and beg' bicycles of the 1920s and 30s. The riders will also wear appropriate costume and are more than happy to talk to the public about their machines; when not riding!

The NAVCC as a re-enactors organisation encourages, research, conservation, restoration and riding of historic cycles and the participation through existing clubs or facilitating the establishment of new clubs. Stuart Warburton, Rally Organiser



said "The National Association of Veteran Cycle Clubs is the oldest veteran cycle club organisation in the world, founded in 1956, and represents 10 veteran cycle clubs from around the country, including the oldest veteran cycle club in the world, the Peterborough Vintage Cycle Club (founded in 1952). Since 1956 we have held a National Rally in different parts of the country for the very best of country's historic cycles and this year we are pleased to be riding around the Fenland roads of Ramsey area and basing the event at the Ramsey Rural Museum."

The NAVCC is a voluntary organisation of 10 veteran cycle clubs located around the country and each year organise

the National Veteran cycle Rally which attracts over 100 cyclist from around the UK and Europe to show off their rare, exotic and commonplace cycles from the last 150 years. The rally attracts riders on boneshakers (the first type of bicycle to be manufactured in numbers), Ordinaries, which are commonly referred to as Penny Farthings, early solid tyred safety and pneumatic bicycles, tricycles and the nostalgic 'sit-up and beg' type bicycles of the 1920s and 30s. Jean Pegg, Lead Volunteer at Ramsey Rural Museum said, "The museum is proud to be involved in this event and seeing all those rare and exotic cycles from the 19th and 20th centuries. We hope that people will come to the museum



to see the cycles and riders, as cycling has been a very important activity for Fenland people since the beginnings of cycling". The public are invited to see the rally at Ramsey Rural Museum and along the roadside during the rides.



## Programme of Events.

### Saturday 5th September

**10.00 onwards** – Cycle Jumble, free to Rally Entrants (£5 pitch for anyone not entered onto the Rally).

**12.00 – 15.00 Saturday Ride** – there is a ride from the museum site to Pondersbridge, Ramsey St. Mary, Upwood and back to Ramsey (14.5 miles) there is an alternative shorter route via the B1040 through New Fen, Pours Land and The Bill back into Ramsey (11.5 miles).

**18.00 Phil Wray Memorial Tree Dedication.** All are welcomed to the formal dedication of an Ash tree planted by the Trustees and volunteers at the Ramsey Rural Museum. The tree is situated in the Fenland House garden.

### Sunday 6th September

**11.30 Rally Start**

**12.00 – 12.15 Pub stop at The George, Ramsey Forty Foot**

**13.00 Leave The George**

**14.00 Arrive back** at the Ramsey Rural Museum

**15.30 Trophy presentations** in the Marquee





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## RACE FOR LIFE WINNER - Page 30



Olivia Mead

## TURNING BACK THE CYCLING CLOCK

PAGE 31



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